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2 June 1962

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MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

SUBJECT: First Meeting, Committee on NSC Action Memo 156

1. On 1 June the first meeting was held of the committee to establish a position on the use of outer space and satellite reconnaissance. Among those present were Messrs Johnson and Hillsman, State; Secretaries Nitze and Charyk, DOD; Mr. Webb, NASA; Mr. Kaysin, White House; several staff members and the undersigned.

2. Mr. Johnson outlined the various actions leading to the formation of the committee, including the Killian letter and the NSC memorandum. He reported on the Special Group discussions relative to clearances for people who would be involved in establishing or negotiating on space policy. I presented the view that no clearances in addition to KH were required but that individuals who needed this background information could be given a limited briefing which would give them an understanding of the importance of satellite reconnaissance to U.S. security. CIA and State will work out the details for presentation to the Special Group.

3. Mr. Johnson presented a working paper which outlined the objectives of U.S. policy in this area, discussed some of the background, and made recommendations for papers to be prepared by the various committee members. After considerable general discussion and some amplification of the paper presented, the group agreed on a series of actions to be taken prior to the next meeting of the committee on 12 June.

4. CIA was specifically charged with obtaining (a) a community agreed upon paper on Soviet anti-satellite capabilities,

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State Intelligence was asked to arrange to obtain an up-to-date paper on Soviet knowledge of our satellite program. They will undoubtedly be turning to CIA for assistance. I have informed Mr. Kent of these CIA commitments and he has undertaken to follow through on them.

HERBERT SCOVILLE, JR.

Deputy Director

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cc: Executive Director

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